

Granados, Catherine and Martin Newman, Julie Olsen Edwards, and Luis Villacreses. These individuals and organizations demonstrate the ongoing need to promote child welfare programs.

NATIONAL CENTER FOR SOCIAL
WORK RESEARCH ACT

HON. CIRO D. RODRIGUEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2002

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of social workers across the nation. This Friday, March 1st, marks the start of the National Professional Social Work Month. I encourage Members to take this opportunity to reach out to social workers in their local communities.

Social workers are an integral part of the safety net fabric woven to support the most vulnerable in our community—children, senior citizens, victims of violence. Every day, social workers are on the front lines coordinating services and ensuring individuals have their basic needs of food, shelter, and health care met. On the local level, they can be found in elementary schools, nursing homes, children's and veteran's hospitals, and a variety of service agencies. On the national level, they advocate for better social welfare policy through organizations like the National Association of Social Workers.

Through their work, social workers promote healthier and stronger communities, and their experience puts them in a unique position to provide valuable research information on how to address societal challenges. However, the bulk of research addressing these complex social issues has produced clinical and empirical data that is difficult to translate into effective policy solutions. The Social Work Research Center would provide a venue for this research to be coordinated and disseminated to Congress and the public.

While the Federal Government provides funding for various social work research activities through the National Institutes of Health and other Federal agencies, it is difficult to coordinate or consolidate these critical activities. Furthermore, for the data we do have, there has been neither an overall assessment of need nor the opportunity to translate the data into effective policy recommendations. For this reason, I strongly believe in the creation of a National Center for Social Work Research within the National Institutes of Health. This proposal has received wide-spread support from the community and bipartisan support in Congress.

Mr. Speaker, the establishment of a National Center for Social Work Research would result in improved behavioral and mental health care policy proposals for our nation's children, families, and elderly.

I urge my colleagues to support the establishment of this Center and cosponsor the National Center for Social Work Research Act.

REMEDY SELECTION FOR THE 201
STEEL INVESTIGATION

HON. SONNY CALLAHAN

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2002

Mr. CALLAHAN. Mr. Speaker, within the next few days the President will make a decision on the appropriate course of action in response to the International Trade Commission (ITC) findings on steel imports. I am grateful to the President for addressing this matter and hope he will stay the course on the issue of steel imports and keeping our trading partners interested in negotiations on global overcapacity reductions.

Steel is an important part of the economy in Alabama. There are over 20,000 jobs directly tied to steel in our state. Alabama is home to some of the most efficient steel makers in the world. A mill in my district can turn scrap into high grade steel in a matter of hours. It can supply steel for ship building as well as a number of other products from street lights to bridges.

All the steel companies in the U.S. are suffering. The accepted reason for this downturn is the overproduction of steel world-wide. The ITC and our trading partners agree there is a real problem. Everyone recognizes that global over capacity is the root cause, and we are meeting with other steel producing nations to do something about it.

But the solution will take years to develop, and in the meantime the open borders of the U.S. are drawing a lot of this overcapacity and damaging our domestic industry. In the short run we need to stabilize the domestic market, while continuing global trade talks.

A four-year time out, is not a lot of time to correct this situation. The steel industry has asked for a four-year tariff starting at 40 percent. Each year that tariff will be reduced. This tariff will do two things, first it will send a message that we are very serious about this problem, and second it will demonstrate that these trade talks are not for show. I am reasonably certain that the talks would not be so well attended without the threat of tariffs.

This tariff will allow the U.S. market to stabilize and provide time to see if these global talks will bear fruit. The President should provide this assistance, which is perfectly legal under the WTO, and which is necessary to bring some stability to the steel markets.

The U.S. steel industry underpins our basic manufacturing base. We need to be very careful about allowing an industry that is so essential to our infrastructure and security to be unjustly damaged. I hope the President will do the right thing and use the tools provided in the WTO to give some breathing room to the domestic industry. I will support him in a strong action.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO CHRIS
PARMETER

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2002

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a great deal of pride that I pay tribute today to Chris

Parmeter, a Colorado Division of Wildlife officer, whose courageous act of capturing two dangerous fugitives went above and beyond the call of duty, and displayed a measure of heroism worthy of being brought before this body of Congress. During his tenure as a Division of Wildlife officer, Chris has embodied the ideals of integrity, honesty and courage that we, as Americans, have come to expect from the men and women who serve in our state parks. I, along with the citizens of Colorado, am both grateful and proud of Chris' extraordinary act of valor, and believe it appropriate to pay tribute to him for his courage and bravery.

Though not typically in the job description, Chris' extraordinary efforts to apprehend two armed killers near Salida, Colorado on September 29, 2001 are a testament to his relentless dedication to his job, to his community and to his state. While manning a roadblock in the area where the fugitives were believed to be, Chris became involved in the search for the two killers. When they were finally flushed from hiding, it was Chris, along with other state wildlife employees, who apprehended the two suspects, and ultimately brought them into custody. Because of his incredible bravery, these criminals are now in the hands of law enforcement officials, and of no threat to anyone else in the area. His courage in the face of both fear and adversity is truly remarkable, and I applaud him for his actions.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored today to rise and pay tribute to a man whose actions are the very essence of all that makes this country great, and I am deeply honored to be able to bring them to the attention of this body of Congress. It is in times of great need that true heroes emerge, and I am proud to say Chris Parmeter is a hero not only to me, but to his family, his friends and to this country. It is with a great deal of pride that I stand to honor him today, and wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

TARIFF-BASED SECTION 201
RELIEF

HON. AMO HOUGHTON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2002

Mr. HOUGHTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today along with many of my fellow colleagues to urge the President to implement a strong, effective remedy for the U.S. steel industry as a result of the ITC's recent Section 201 investigation, even if I speak from a somewhat different perspective than many of these colleagues.

While I am well aware of the importance of a stable domestic steel industry to the financial security and national defense of this country, I do not represent a district with an extensive steel industry presence that has been devastated by the recent steel crisis. However, I do have a steel specialty company that closed last year, laying off many individuals. The plant was recently purchased by a new owner and is in the process of reopening. In addition, I have many constituents in the district with steel-related jobs that have been hurt by the steel imports. In New York State, the number of employees in the New York steel industry dropped by 27 percent from January

1998 to July 2001. I also represent thousands of hard-working Americans who want to know that America's trade laws are going to be enforced if their own livelihoods ever come under a similar attack. That is why I stand before you today.

I applaud the President for his recognition that the domestic steel industry is in the midst of a crisis and for initiating a Section 201 investigation. That investigation has culminated in a unanimous agreement at the ITC that the U.S. steel industry has been significantly injured by the unfair trade practices of foreign producers and nations. Our laws now put the ball back in the President's court and call on the Administration to implement a remedy that will give the domestic industry a real opportunity to recover from years of unfair trade and to compete in today's ever-changing marketplace. This remedy must come in the form of strong, tariff-based relief.

An effective tariff-based remedy would help return steel prices to their normal pre-crisis levels and allow American steel companies to make the necessary investments to remain viable and competitive in the future. It would also stimulate foreign governments and steel producers to make the difficult decisions that U.S. producers have already made—to bring stability and balance to the global steel market. In order to be effective, this remedy must meet certain criteria.

The first key to an effective tariff-based remedy is that it must be substantial in order to ensure that import prices return to market-based levels. To that end, the domestic industry has determined that a 40 percent tariff rate on flat-rolled products is warranted. In the Section 201 investigation, two of the ITC Commissioners fully agreed with this determination.

An effective remedy also must be comprehensive and must be imposed for a substantial period of time. Applying a consistent tariff-based remedy across all flat steel products is the only fair way to impose relief, and the only way to ensure that foreign producers don't simply shift their excess production to other areas. Further, in order for a remedy to have any real effect on the domestic and global marketplace, it must be enforced for at least four years. This will allow the domestic industry to make the necessary adjustments to import competition, and the President to achieve his objective of repairing the global steel trading system.

In endorsing the use of an effective, tariff-based remedy, I strongly urge the President to steer clear of quota-based relief. Such a remedy would further distort the global marketplace by providing an artificial incentive for foreign producers to ship substantial amounts of low-priced steel into our borders as quickly as possible in order to "get in under the quota." The last thing U.S. producers need at this time is another uncontrolled flood of under-priced steel.

The Administration has promised on a number of occasions to be tough on unfair trade, and now is the time to live up to that promise. The President must implement this effective tariff-based relief in order to demonstrate to foreign producers and governments that the Administration is serious about addressing not just the problem of foreign excess steel capacity, but also the problem of unfair trade practices in general. Our laws are consistent with international law and designed to ensure that our industries have somewhere to turn for re-

lief when they fall victim to unfair trade. These laws are only effective to the extent they are enforced, and their enforcement is a duty that we owe to the American people.

ON THE FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF THE ENACTMENT OF THE CHILD CITIZENSHIP ACT OF 2001

HON. WILLIAM D. DELAHUNT

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2002

Mr. DELAHUNT. Mr. Speaker, for all our colleagues in this chamber, the days are long and the rewards often intangible. Once in a great while, however, the results of our work together are so compelling that it's worth stopping for a moment to take notice.

In this spirit, I rise today to celebrate the first anniversary of the implementation of the Child Citizenship Act of 2001. With the help of a remarkable bipartisan coalition—Congressmen HENRY HYDE and LAMAR SMITH; Senators DON NICKLES, MARY LANDRIEU and TED KENNEDY, to name just a few—we made history for tens of thousands of American families, and for the scores of overseas orphans they have embraced as their own.

On February 27, 2001, United States citizenship was conferred automatically on every young child under age 18 adopted by American parents. By the most conservative estimates, more than 150,000 children woke up that morning as American citizens.

The joy of that sunny morning brimmed on the faces of adoptive families, their relatives and neighbors from coast to coast. Spontaneous commemorations, public and private, sprouted up in dozens of communities across the country, from Atlanta to Alaska.

It was a special pleasure to help host the national celebration one year ago today, in Boston's historic Faneuil Hall. Since its construction in 1742, that hall has occupied a hallowed place on our nation's trail toward freedom. It witnessed the revolutionary speeches of Samuel Adams, the anti-slavery oratory of Frederick Douglass, and the stirring call of Susan B. Anthony for women's suffrage. Last February 27, we gathered in that cradle of liberty to mark another step forward.

The new law lives not only in the bright eyes of these children and the pride in their parents' hearts, but also in the story of human compassion. In addition to those "overnight citizens" of last February 27, the Child Citizenship Act has conferred automatic U.S. citizenship upon the lawful completion of each international adoption since. In 2001 alone, U.S. parents adopted over 4600 orphans from China and 4200 from Russia, 1700 from South Korea, 1600 from Guatemala, 1200 from Ukraine, 700 from each of Romania, Vietnam and Kazakhstan; 500 from India; 400 from Cambodia; and hundreds more from Bulgaria, Colombia, the Philippines, Haiti, Ethiopia, Poland, Thailand, Mexico, Jamaica, Liberia, and dozens of other nations—altogether, more than 19,000 overseas children since the new law took effect.

Each is now a United States citizen. Not one had to struggle with the red tape or expense of the naturalization process. No federal agency was saddled with reams of paperwork to process their cases.

The real meaning, of course, cannot adequately be measured in statistics. The deepest gratification lies in the strengthening of the family—the American family and the universal, extended family of which we are all a part. During the Faneuil Hall celebration, my own daughter Kara, herself a beneficiary of the Saigon Babylift 26 years ago and a naturalized citizen, stressed that U.S. citizenship is not a rejection of one's country of origin, but rather an opportunity to weave a new, deeply personal heritage.

The enactment of the Child Citizenship Act was a model of bipartisan legislative collaboration. I still hope to build on this success to address, either administratively or through additional legislation, a number of questions that remain about the Act's application to children of American citizens living abroad.

My only real disappointment—last February and still today—is the reluctance of the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service to streamline its protocols for issuing certificates of citizenship.

Many of the 150,000 who assumed citizenship last year, and those since adopted, naturally desire official affirmation of their new status. Thousands have taken advantage of the new State Department procedures to acquire United States passports. The process is so straightforward that Senator KENNEDY was able to hand-deliver the first such passport in the nation on the stage at the Faneuil Hall celebration, within two hours of the legislation taking effect.

Inexplicably, however, the INS still has not followed suit. If an adoptive child who is now a U.S. citizen seeks an INS certificate, he or she must undergo the same lengthy, expensive and cumbersome process that faces a non-citizen seeking naturalization. This procedure is irrationally burdensome for both the applicant and the agency; and it offends nearly everyone who has the misfortune to have to undergo it.

These children are already American citizens. All adoptive parents want is a piece of paper affirming that fact. It should be no harder than getting a driver's license—or a passport.

Fortunately, this problem cannot negate the enormous benefits the law has conferred on adoptive families and our entire community. Especially in the wake of September 11, as we all struggle against global misunderstanding, this new law helps fulfill the lifelong dream of thousands of families and shows enormous respect to the compassion of our own great, diverse and generous nation.

IN HONOR OF GRAND MARSHAL
MARYANN CONNELLY

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2002

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and acknowledge the many accomplishments of Grand Marshal Maryann Connelly. The St. Patrick's Parade Committee honored her on Sunday, February 24th, 2002, at the annual brunch at the Hi-Hat Caterers in Bayonne, New Jersey.

Maryann Connelly is the Principal at the Philip G. Vroom Elementary School in Bayonne, New Jersey. She has been employed